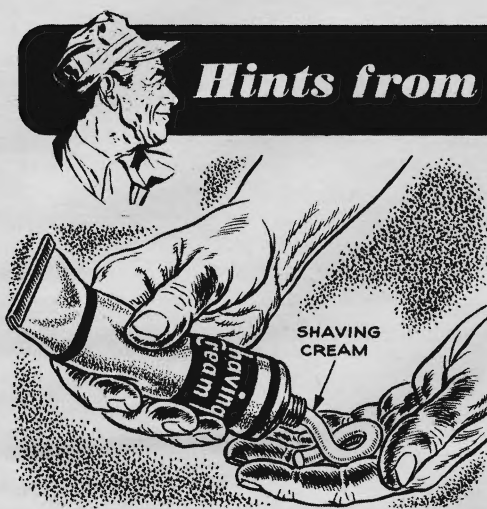


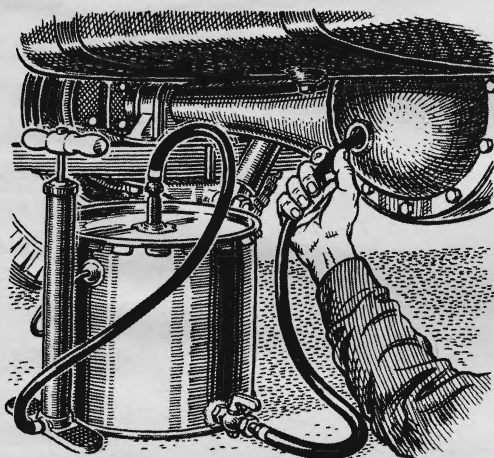
Hints from the Model Garage



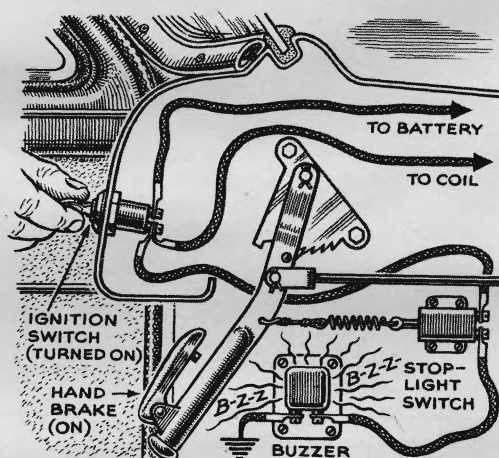
Shaving Cream Removes Grease. I carry a tube of brushless shaving cream in the glove compartment and find that it is fine for cleaning grease from my hands after a tire change or minor engine adjustment. The cream doesn't require water, and comes off with the dirt as you wipe your hands. — Donald P. Greiner, Dundee, Fla.



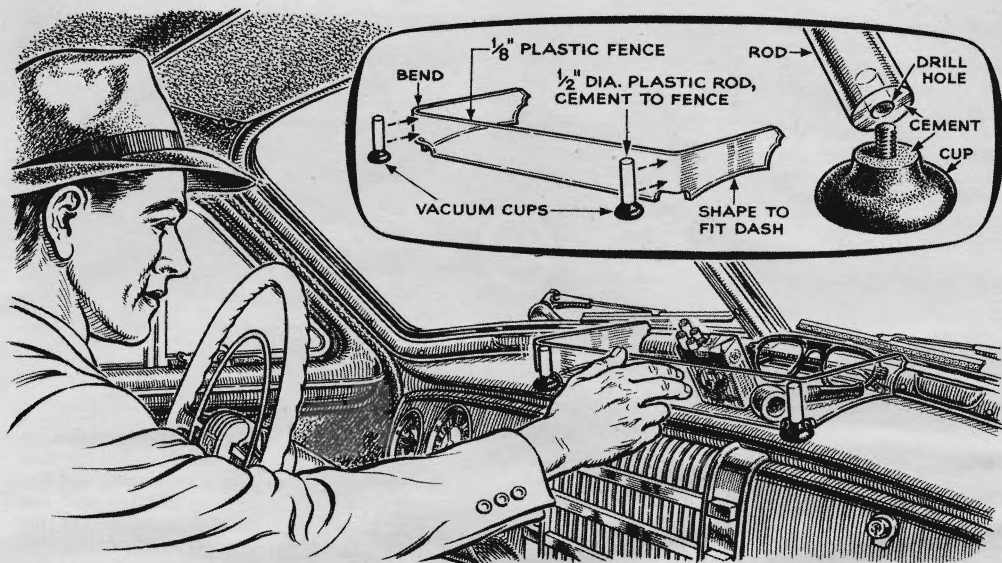
Linseed Oil Dresses Fabric Top. I have found that a good dressing for fabric tops is boiled (not raw) linseed oil. It even seals small leaks in the top, and does not crack because it is flexible. However, it requires considerable time to dry. Any paint store has it, but be sure it is boiled linseed oil. — G. E. Boyd, Youngstown, Ohio.



Can Makes Pressure Filler. A 2- or 5-gal. can, with a tire valve soldered in the top and a petcock soldered in the side near the bottom, makes a pressure filler for auto differentials and transmissions. Attach a flexible hose to the petcock and put a few pounds of air through the valve with a hand pump or air line and the filler is ready for use. The same idea works on a 55-gal. drum for dispensing bulk liquids.

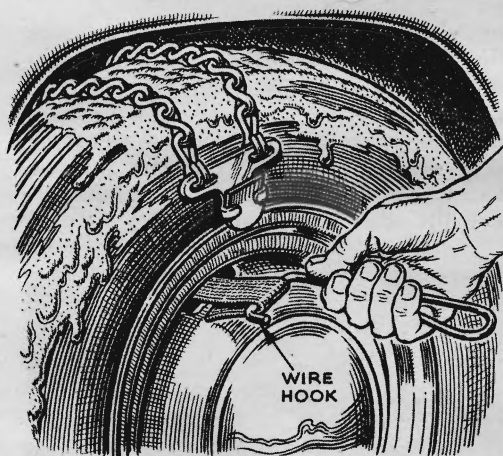


Buzzer Warns Hand Brake Is On. After catching my wife driving with the hand brake on for the third time, I devised this simple warning gadget that is similar to those found on newer cars. I connected a doorbell buzzer through a stoplight switch to the ignition switch, as shown in the drawing. Turning the key sounds the buzzer until the brake lever is released. The buzzer is under the dash. — W. M. Dierks, Chicago.



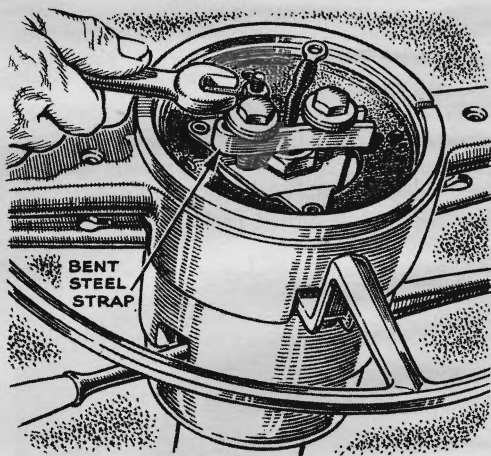
Dashboard Fence of Plastic. A strip of $\frac{1}{8}$ " plastic, bent and cemented to two posts, forms a dashboard fence that will hold a lot of those miscellaneous items you frequently need while driving. Small vacuum cups cemented and threaded to the rods will

hold the fence but will not scratch the finish. Use $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter rods for the posts. Shape the sidepieces to the curve of the dash, either by cutting or by molding the hot plastic against the metal. Cigarettes, matches, pencils, and other items are kept in easy reach.



Hook Aids in Attaching Chains.

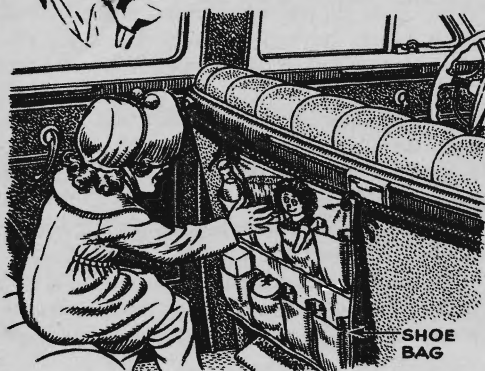
Putting on strap-on chains—sometimes called mud hooks—usually is a messy and difficult job. To save my fingers and time, I use a stiff piece of wire bent to an L-shape. Most wheels have a rather small opening through which the webbed strap must pass. Run the hook through the opening and use it to pull the strap through.—*John Wright, Middleboro, Mass.*



Steering Wheel Puller. Removing the steering wheel of a Frazer without damaging the wire to the horn button was a problem until I hit on the simple puller illustrated here. It is a piece of $\frac{1}{8}$ " by $\frac{1}{2}$ " steel strap bent to a U-shape. Two bolts, supported by washers, were used to pull the wheel. Of course, the nut on the steering post was loosened, but not removed, to provide a bearing surface for the U-bracket.



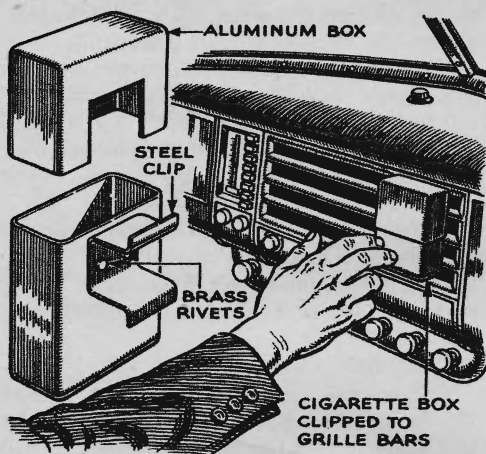
Hints from the Model Garage



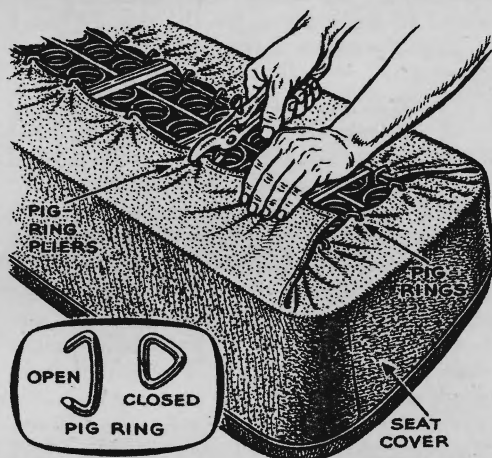
Shoe Bag Stores Toys. Before starting out on a long trip with a child, fasten a shoe bag to the back of the front seat. You can then stow toys, fruit, cookies, tissues, and other travel needs in the pockets. Besides keeping the inside of the car tidy, it saves packing and unpacking a suitcase en route.



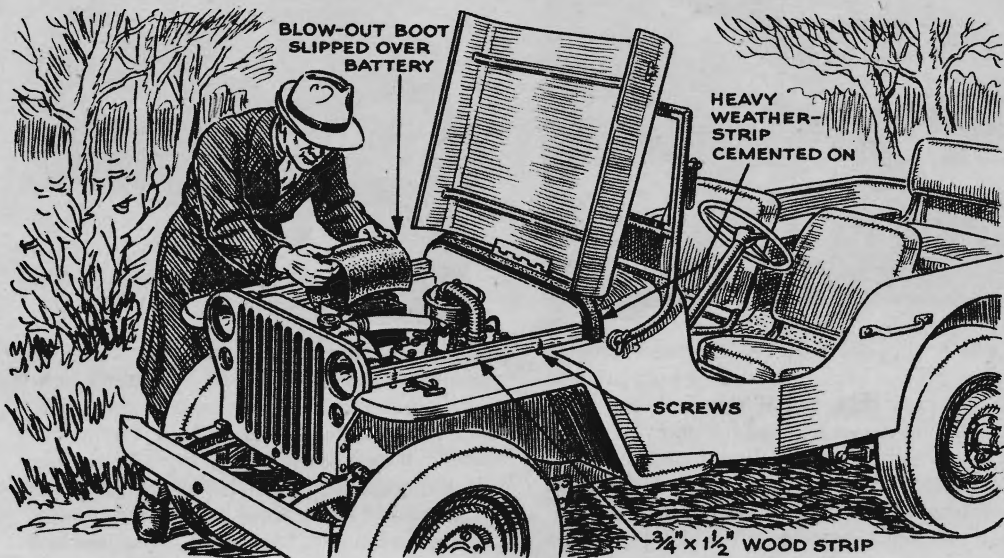
Eraser Cleans Windshield. George A. Smith, of Quarryville, Pa., suggests that a clean blackboard eraser is a handy item to carry in your glove compartment. When moisture collects on the inside of the windshield, a few strokes with the eraser will quickly give you unobstructed vision.



Cigarettes at Your Fingertips. Here's how Claude Wiseman, Jr., of Elizabethtown, Ky., mounted an aluminum pocket cigarette case on the radio grille of his car. A clip, bent from fairly heavy sheet steel, was riveted to one side of the body of the box and the cover notched to slip down over the clip. The clip is snapped between the grille bars. For a grille with vertical bars, the clip could be rotated 90 deg.

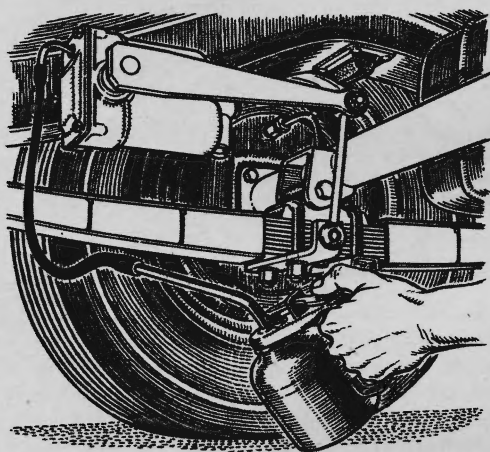


Pig Rings Fasten Seat Cover. There are many ways that you might attach seat covers to keep them from wrinkling, but C. F. Bigwood, of Malta, Mont., comes up with one that looks especially convenient for motorists who live in rural areas. He recommends the use of pig rings to clip the cover to the springs. With a pair of hog pliers, a handful of rings can be quickly locked in place around the edge of the cover.

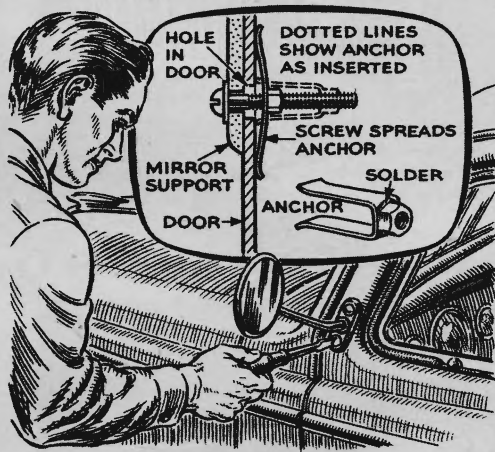


Jeep Engine Kept Dry. David Horvath, of Yonkers, N. Y., writes that he frequently had trouble starting his Jeep because water and snow collected around the spark plugs and on the battery and wiring. This sketch shows how he waterproofed the en-

gine for less than 75 cents. The openings between the hood and mud guards were closed with $\frac{3}{4}$ " by $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wood strips, fastened to the mud guards with wood screws. A length of weather strip diverts water flowing from the cowl. A blow-out boot protects the battery.



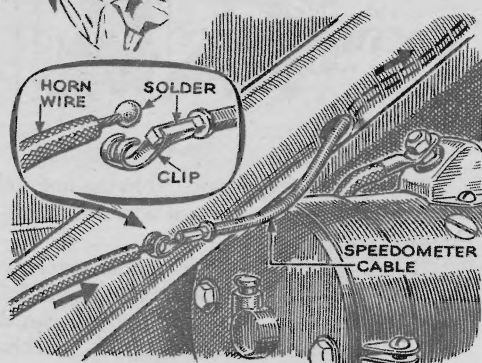
Shocks Filled with Oil Can. Here's a rig that will enable you to refill shock absorbers without difficulty when the filler plug is located in a hard-to-reach spot. Suggested by Marion L. Rhodes, of Knightstown, Ind., it consists of a pump-type oil can, a length of rubber tubing, and a small nozzle bent from copper tubing. With the nozzle inserted, a few strokes on the pump handle will quickly refill the shock.



Toggle Nut Holds Mirror. When the original self-threading metal screw tore loose, B. Leo DeMare, of Aberdeen, Md., devised the nut shown above to fasten a rear-view mirror to his car. A nut first was filed down slightly to clear a hole in the door frame. A strip of sheet brass was drilled, soldered to the nut and bent into a U. The nut and anchor were threaded on the bolt, inserted in the hole, and drawn up tight.

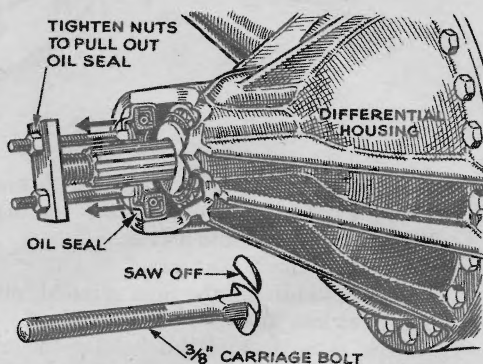


Hints from the Model Garage

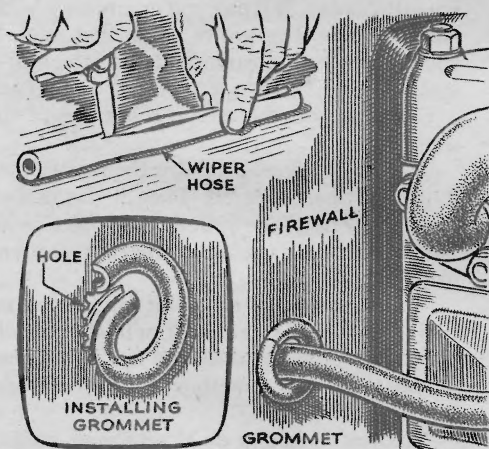


Speedometer Cable Fixes Horn.

A good way to replace defective horn wiring is reported by Lester L. Haberman, of Hartford, Conn. Instead of fishing wire through the steering column, he uses a broken piece of speedometer cable as a leader. A bent clip soldered to the end, small enough to pass through the hole in the column, hooks the horn wire to pull it through. A blob of solder on the tip will engage it securely.

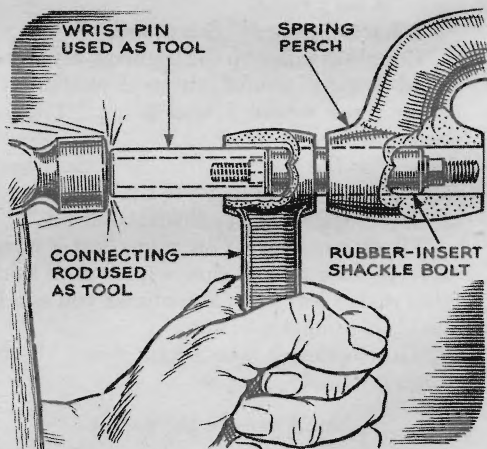


Bolts Pull Oil Retainer. The oil seal on the differential housing of one Plymouth seemed to be in for good, but Stanley T. Lusas, Woodbury, Conn., found a way out. Sawing a flat on two $\frac{3}{8}$ " carriage bolts, he was able to slip the altered boltheads into the groove from which the felt ring was removed. By alternately tightening nuts against a simple bar yoke, he drew out the seal. Different bolts may be needed on other cars.

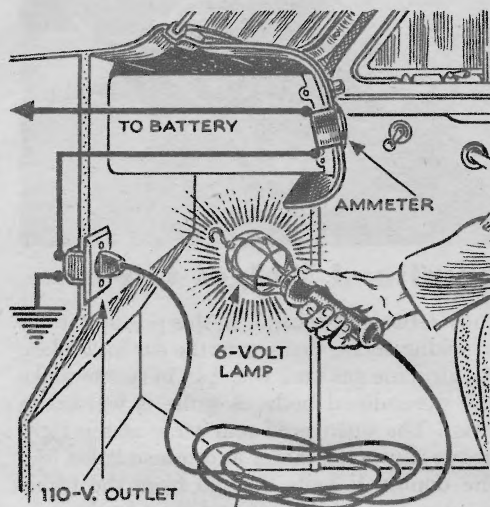


Grommet Guards Heater Hose.

In making a hole in the firewall for heater hose you may have to drill a circle of holes and chisel out between them. Protect the heater hose from the jagged edges by slitting a piece of windshield-wiper hose and cementing it around the rough inside edge.

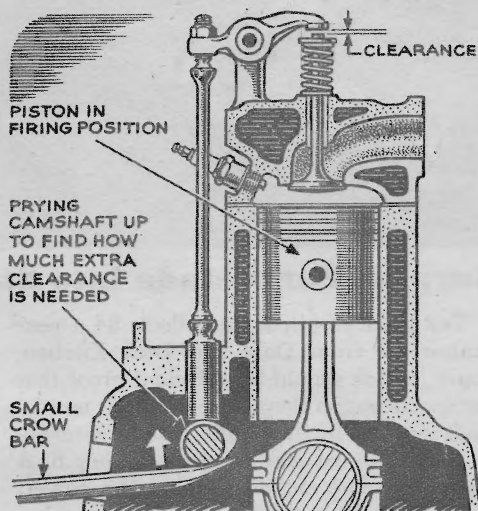


Wrist Pin Drives Shackle. When installing rubber-insert shackle bolts, George Pedley, of N. Grosvenordale, Conn., uses two other parts as tools. A wrist pin, annealed by heating, is employed for driving the bolt, and a connecting rod is used as a guide to keep the rubber from expanding.

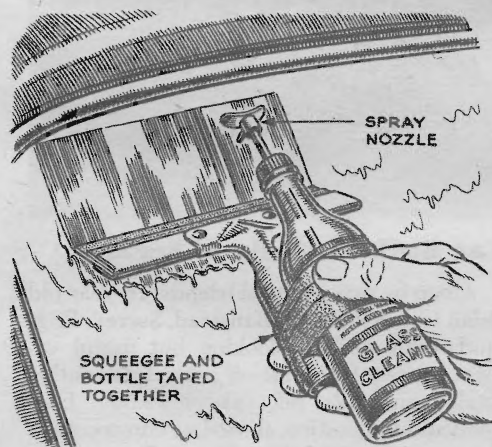


Trouble Light Doubles in Car.

One extension cord kept in the car is always available for use as a trouble light with the accessories added by W. M. Dierks, of Chicago. He installed a standard 110-volt outlet in the car, wiring it from the ammeter to ground. At the other end is a 6-volt bulb with a standard screw base. For use on house current it is only necessary to replace the bulb with a 110-volt one.



Wear Alters Clearance. Worn camshaft bushings may cause burned valves by reducing the apparent tappet clearance. Caral Lee, of Weld, Me., suggests this test for Chevrolets: Set the No. 1 tappet, remove the fuel pump, pry up the camshaft, and recheck the clearance. Since the camshaft tends to ride at the top of its bushings during rotation, the measured difference should be added to the normal clearance.



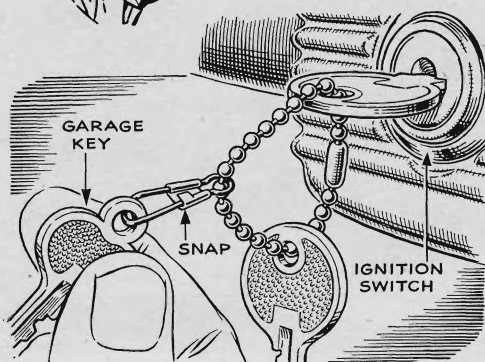
Unit Windshield Cleaner. Tape a rubber squeegee to a bottle of glass-cleaning fluid fitted with a spray nozzle, writes Sally Mills, of Syracuse, N. Y. When the windshield needs cleaning you only have to dig out the one unit to spray the fluid and wipe it off immediately.



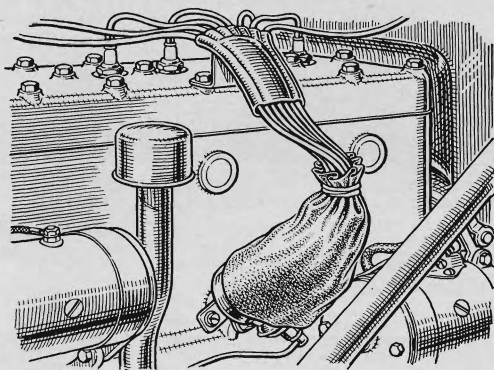
Stool Built of Brake Drums. One mechanic made his job easier by welding two discarded brake drums together. Four casters on the bottom and a sheepskin buffing pad on top make it a serviceable rolling stool. It's particularly good for jobs for which you'd ordinarily have to kneel.



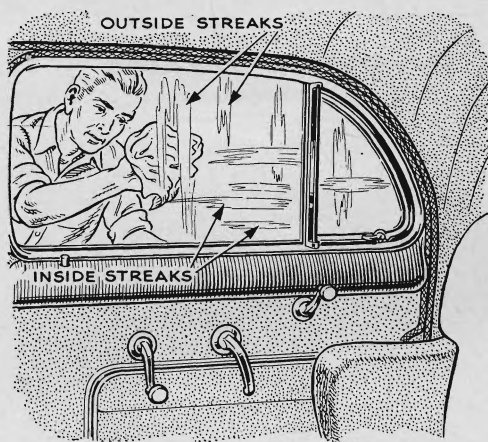
Hints from the Model Garage



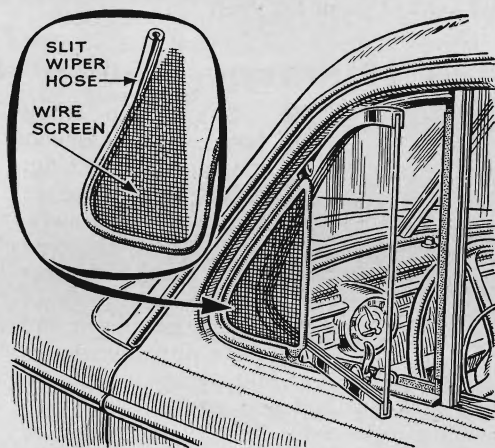
Garage Key Slips off Ring. It's always a nuisance if you must turn off the ignition and carry along all your keys when you unlock the garage door. This can be avoided if you have a quick, easy way to remove the garage key from the ring. Here's one possible way. The fishing-tackle snap shown can be bought in most tackle shops.



Sleeve Protects Ignition. If you have had trouble with the ignition shorting out during heavy rain, here's an idea that may help you. Cut an 8" section from an old inner tube, snap loose the distributor cap, slip the rubber sleeve over the high-tension wires, and replace the cap. Draw together and tie the sleeve at the topmost edge.



Get Off All the Streaks. Did you ever wash a car window and find when you're through that it's still streaked? H. R. Schaaf, of Louisville, Ky., says he has found it's best to use horizontal strokes of the cleaning cloth on one side of the glass and vertical strokes on the other. Then, if there are any streaks, you know at once which side they are on.



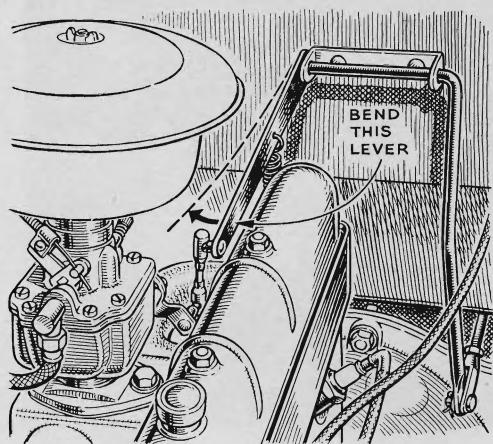
Screen Catches the Bugs. For summer driving, a triangular piece of screening fitted into the area in front of the vent pane will catch any insects that are drawn in with the air. You can solder a heavy wire around the screening or just slip on slit wiper tubing as in the sketch. It's only a moment's work to slip out the screen and close the ventilator.



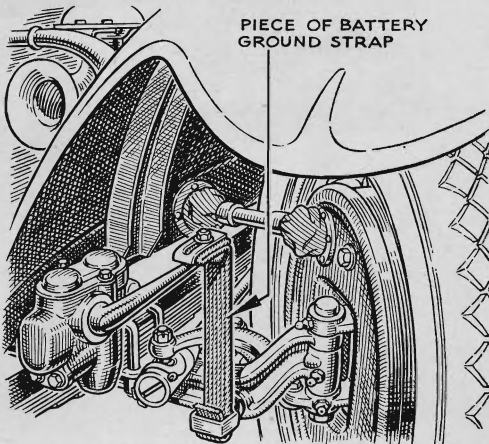
Door Open, Light Off. Door-operated dome lights can't ordinarily be shut off if you just want to park with the door open. Wesley E. Charter, of Rockville, Conn., suggests that this can be done with a strip pivoted on one switch screw, preferably the lower one. It takes only a moment then to pivot the strip over the switch button.



Mirror Is Always Handy. Here's the way W. M. Dierks, of Chicago, filled the bill when his wife asked for a convenient mirror for use in the car. Buying a large compact, he mounted it as shown inside the glove-compartment door, drilling holes and attaching it with screws. While not in use, the compact is kept closed.



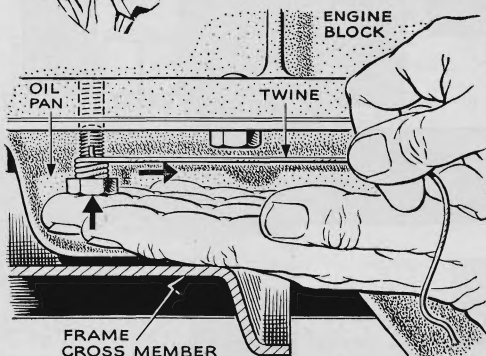
It Wasn't a Ghost. On right turns, Eric St. Clair, Richmond, Va., found his Crosley accelerating of its own accord. He traced the cause to contact between the throttle linkage and camshaft cover. Bending the link cured the trouble. His explanation: On right turns the engine mounting was flexible enough to let the camshaft cover bear against the linkage.



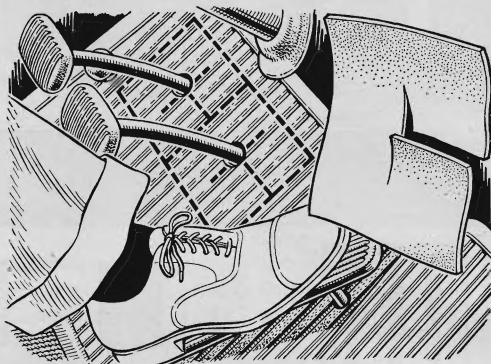
Strap Repairs Shock Absorber. This is how E. V. Collins, of Bantam, Conn., repaired an old-type shock absorber when the web strap broke. Unable to buy a new one, he tried woven brake lining but it soon broke. Then he used woven copper braid made for ground straps on batteries, installing it as shown in the sketch. It's given good service ever since.



Hints from the Model Garage



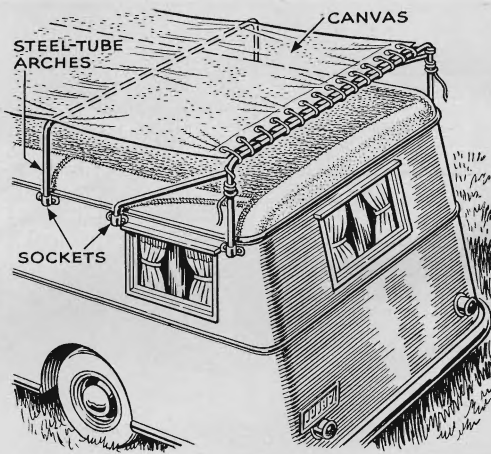
Twine Starts Bolts. Ben H. Clare, of Wellsville, Mo., suggests you use twine the next time you have to start a bolt in a hard-to-get-at spot. Wrap the bolt with twine, hold it in place with a finger or screwdriver and pull the twine. Sometimes it may be necessary to taper the end of the bolt.



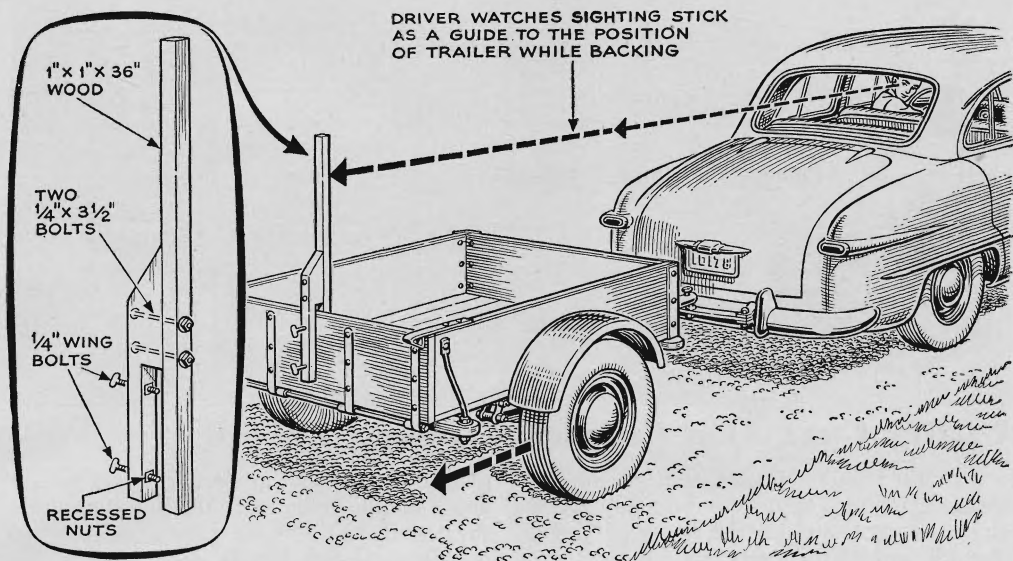
Floor Pads Stop Drafts. Wind that blows in around the shafts of the clutch and brake pedals can be stopped by pieces cut from an old inner tube or step pad. F. W. Marasco, of McKeesport, Pa., writes that it isn't necessary to secure the slit pieces if you cut them large enough.



Keep an Auto Log. Adapt the idea of the airplane flight log to your car. Plane owners keep a careful record of engine checks and repairs, among other things. Put a notebook in the glove compartment and record lubrication, servicing, and overhauls. A date and mileage record of performance troubles, unexplained noises, or the like is often a source of clues for trouble shooting. A log also gives you a record of expenses.

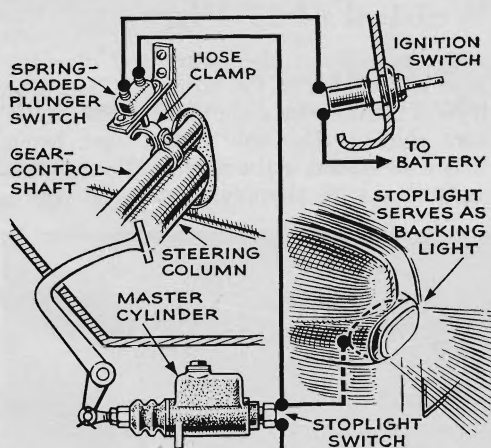


Awning Shades Trailer Roof. The interior of a parked trailer often becomes unbearably hot when the summer sun beats directly on it. To remedy this condition, A. V. Malone, of Los Angeles, built the shade shown above. It's canvas stretched over steel tubes that fit into sockets on the trailer. Mounted about 12" above the roof, it has open sides for air circulation, lowering the inside temperature 10 to 20 deg.

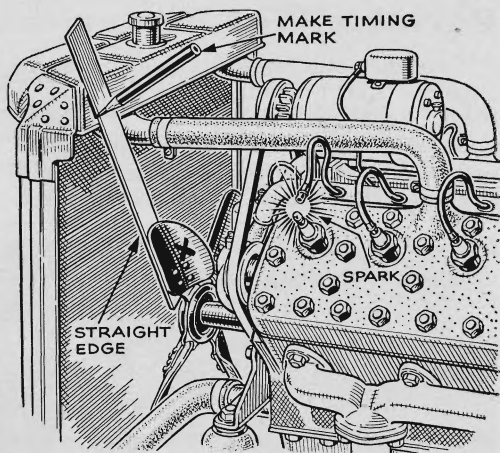


Guide for Backing Trailer. Anyone who has ever backed a two-wheel auto trailer will appreciate this simple guide to its direction, Suggested by Ralph S. Wilkes, of Keuka Park, N. Y., the directional guide is an upright hardwood stick about 1" square

by 3' long and a clamping device. If you can't buy the wing bolts, make your own by heating the heads of $\frac{1}{4}$ " or $\frac{3}{8}$ " machine bolts and flattening the heads with a hammer. The nuts are set into square recesses chiseled in the wood.



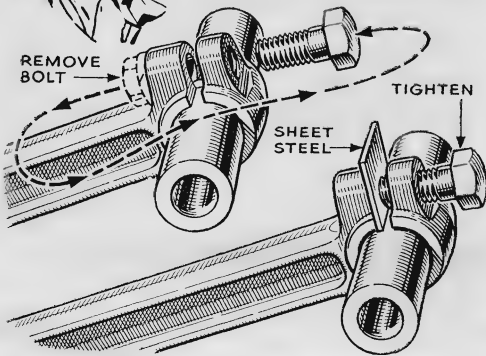
Light for Backing Car. F. W. Atwood, of Danvers, Mass., wired his stoplight so it serves also as a backing light. He mounted a spring-loaded switch on the fire-wall and a hose clamp on the shifter rod. Shifting into reverse turns on the stoplight. It's wired through the ignition so the car can be left parked in reverse. The motor can be started without the key (with shift in reverse and brake on), but this does no harm.



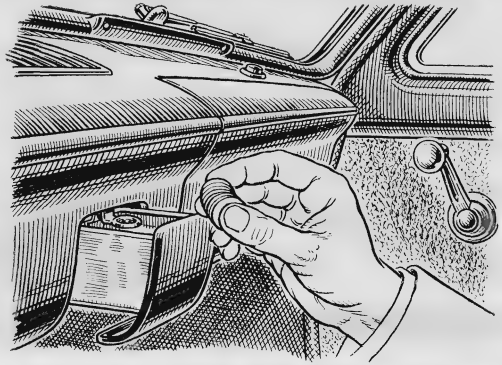
Ignition Timing Kink. Here's an easy method, writes H. W. Mills, of Albion, Ill., for checking the timing of a car with a direct-drive fan. Slowly crank the engine with the ignition on after disconnecting No. 1 spark plug. When you get a spark, use a straightedge on a fan blade to mark a spot on the radiator. Also identify the fan blade as well. This is mainly useful if one mark is made when the timing is just right.



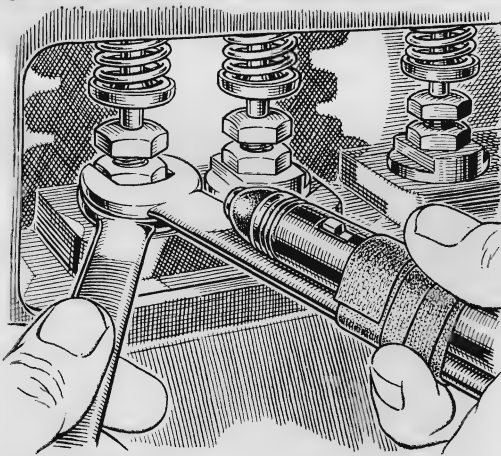
Hints from the Model Garage



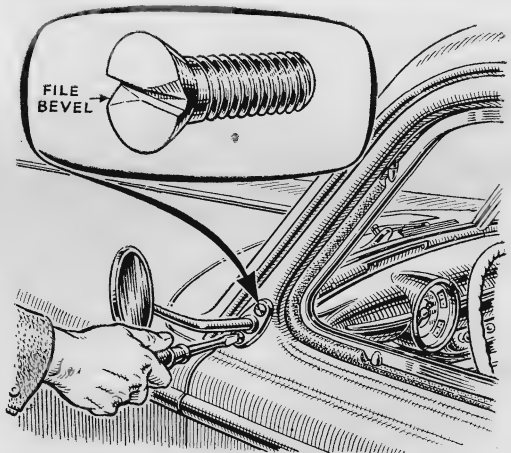
Con Rod Pressed Open. Wrist pins to be clamped in connecting rods of the kind shown will not always go in easily, even with the bolt loosened. If assembly proves difficult, reverse the bolt as shown and use it and a piece of thin steel to spring open the con rod very slightly. Replace the bolt in its proper position after doing this.



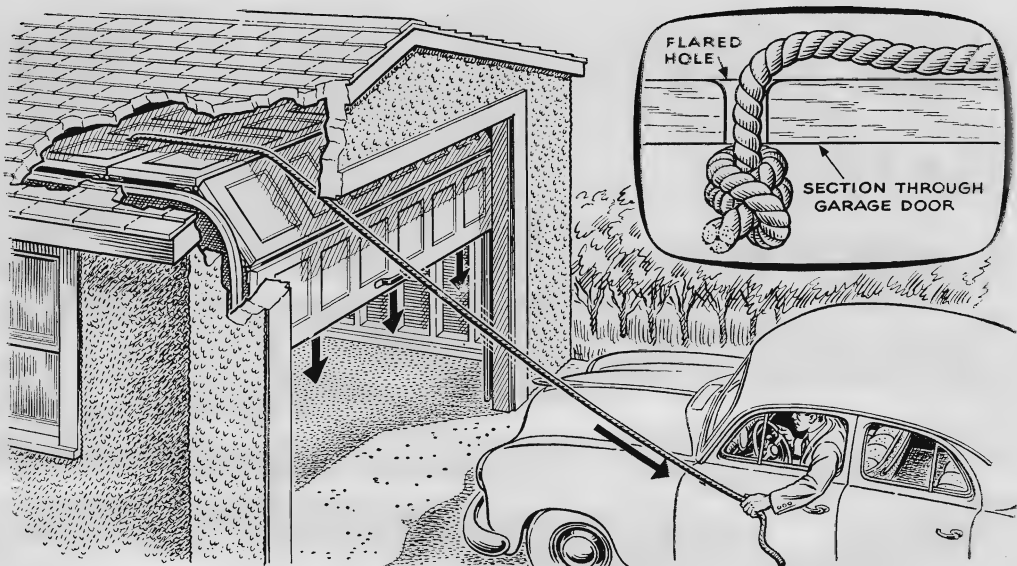
Coins Kept in Ash Tray. If you are a nonsmoker, the dashboard ash tray is a handy place to keep a supply of pennies, nickels, and dimes for parking meters and toll gates. For convenience in removing the coins, bend down the snuffer. Felt or cotton lining cemented to the bottom and sides will stop rattles.



Light on the Spot. Adjusting valve tappets on a car is a fussy job to do just right. What makes it troublesome is the necessity of manipulating wrenches and a thickness gauge in cramped quarters with inadequate light. Albert S. Eaton, of Belmont, Mass., reports that the work goes a little easier if you tape a pocket flashlight to the upper tappet wrench.



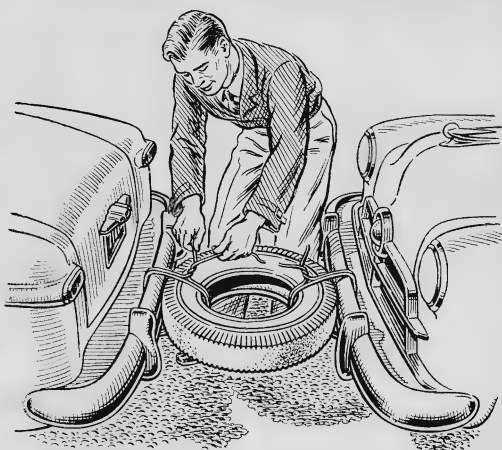
Filed Screws Prevent Theft. If you attach a mirror, road light, or other accessory with external screws, safeguard it against theft by filing off those corners of the slots that the screwdriver bears against during removal. Once tightened, the screw is next to impossible to remove, so use it only on permanent installations. You can retighten it, however, if vibration loosens it.



Rope Closes Overhead Door.

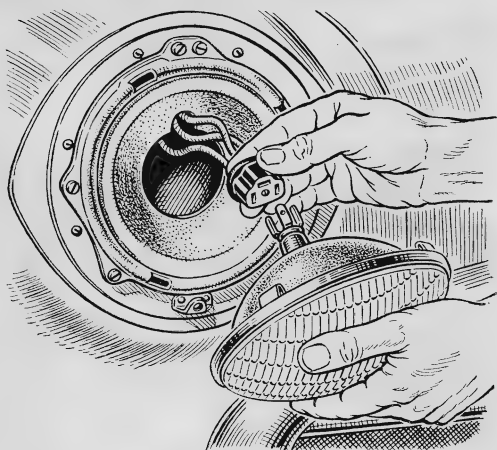
With this arrangement, you don't have to get out of the car to close the door after leaving the garage. Just grab the rope dangling near the jamb, and give it a pull after you have backed out. Attach the rope (a

clothesline will probably serve) by drilling a hole a few inches down from the top of the door. Charles Morse, Elmira, N. Y., says he finds the rope trick very convenient. For easy operation of the door, keep the rollers and track well lubricated.



Tire Cushions Towing Bumps.

An old tire makes an excellent coupling to a car that you want to tow. Pass a few turns of heavy wire or rope around the tire and the respective bumpers of the two cars and you are ready to go. The tire effectively smooths out the jerks and nicely cushions the bumps in stopping, writes Leslie H. Housel, of Grass Lake, Mich.

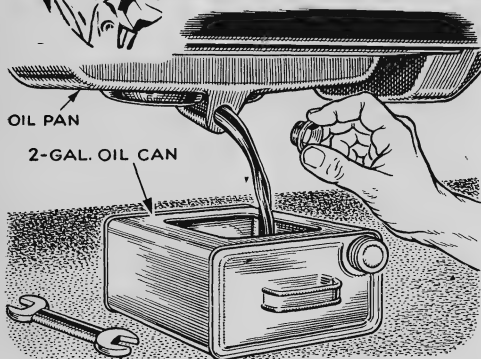


Corrosion Knocks Out Lights.

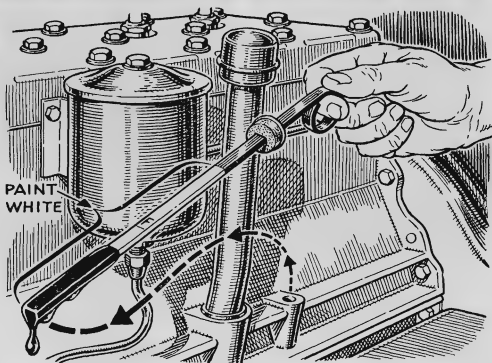
If either beam of a sealed-reflector headlight goes out, be sure you really need a new unit before putting down the cash. In some cases, particularly in older cars, you will find the contacts have become so corroded that the resistance prevents the lamp from lighting. Careful cleaning of the contacts will restore the light to usefulness.



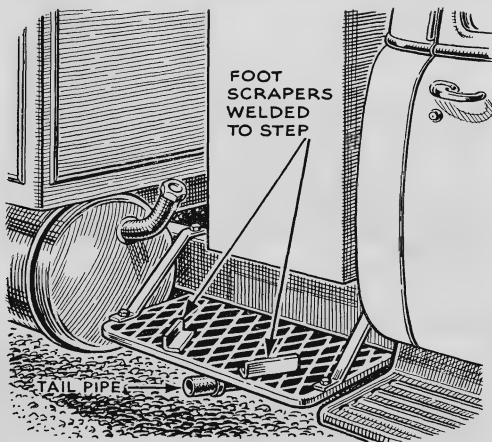
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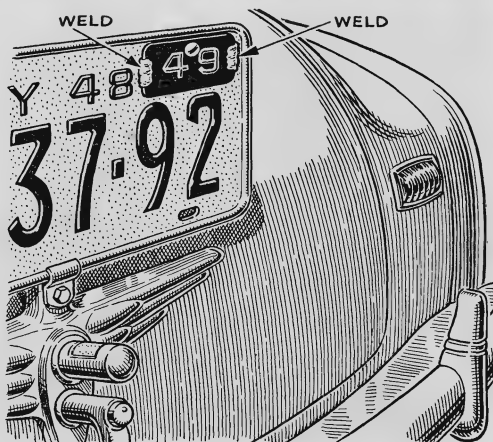
Oil Drained into Flat Can. Some new cars are so low that it's awkward to drain the crankcase without a lift. The job calls for a shallow but capacious pan. Victor H. Lamoy, of Upper Jay, N. Y., reports that an empty 2-gal. oil can with a large opening cut in one side gets under easily. Leave a lip around the hole to keep the oil from slopping when you drag out the filled can.



White Stick Shows Oil Level. It's always a little difficult to be sure of the oil level on a dark dip stick. M. M. Dierks, of Chicago, says a coating of white lacquer has taken care of the problem in his case. Before applying the lacquer, he scoured off all traces of oil from the stick and then cleaned it thoroughly with a wire scratch wheel to give good adhesion.



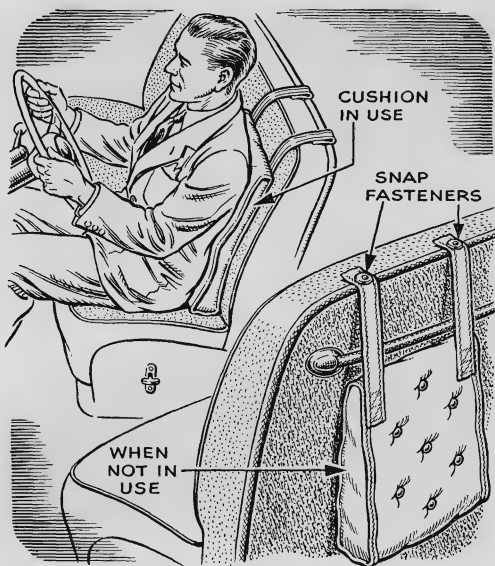
Foot Scraper Aids Safety. Wet mud is as dangerous on the step and floor of a truck cab as slippery ice. Operators of one Texas truck fleet welded foot scrapers on auxiliary steps just behind the regular ones to enable drivers to clean their shoes as they enter. To keep the step clear in winter, the exhaust line is piped underneath.



Welding Prevents Loss. To save metal, several states have adopted the practice of issuing small year tags for renewal of old license plates. To prevent loss or theft, you can tack-weld them to the plate. If carefully done, low-heat arc welding will not distort the metal nor burn more than a small, easily retouched area of paint.

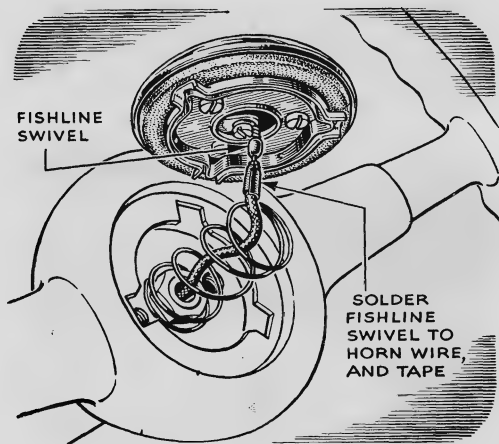


Handkerchief Tags Car. When you must park in a lot where there are hundreds of cars, as at the beach, ball park, or fair grounds, you can make it easier to find your car by extending the radio aerial to its full height. First tie a handkerchief or piece of tissue paper to its tip.



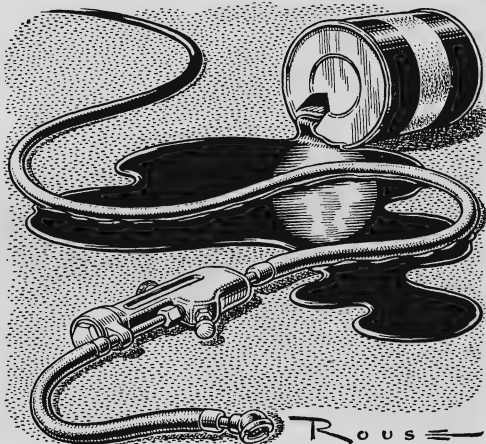
Back Rest Flips Out of Way.

Does your wife need a cushion behind her to reach the pedals easily? Here's an excellent method of having the cushion always available but still out of the way when not needed. You may also find it handy yourself for changing your position on long drives.



Swivel Safeguards Horn Wire.

In some cars the horn wire inside the steering column is subjected to considerable twisting. C. B. Hopkins, of Tacoma, Wash., found that this caused the wire on his 1941 Ford to break several times. A brass fishline swivel, taped as shown above, took care of the problem nicely.

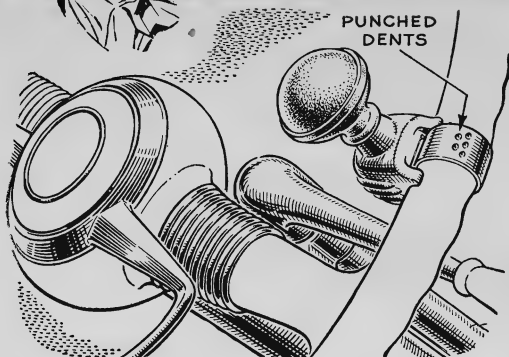


Oil Rots Rubber.

If you run a shop, you know the cost of air hoses, battery-charger cables, and other rubber equipment. One sure way of increasing this cost is illustrated here. Grease and oil cause rubber to disintegrate rapidly. So keep such equipment off the floor. It's also a good idea to wipe off the lines occasionally.



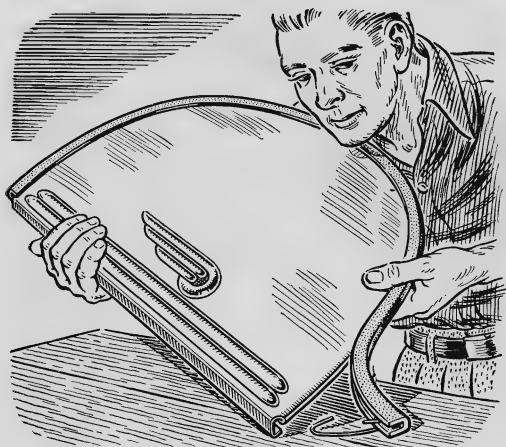
Hints from the Model Garage



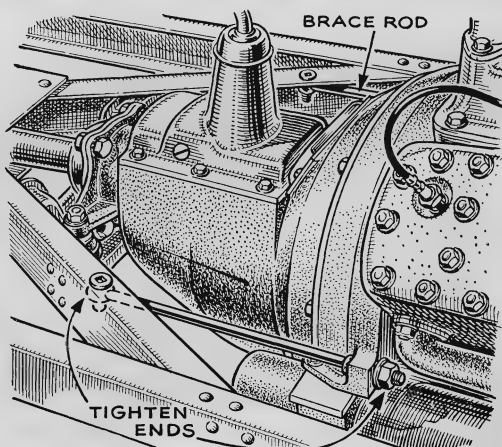
Steering Knob Kept Rigid. A spinner knob that twists in or out on the steering wheel can be cured by putting a few punch dots in the clamp. To avoid the possibility of cracking a plastic wheel, it's best to remove the spinner and clamp it on a broom handle or similar object. With a prick punch, make four or five dimples on opposite sides of the strap. When clamped, the spinner will remain in position permanently.—*Jim Sisley, Seattle, Wash.*



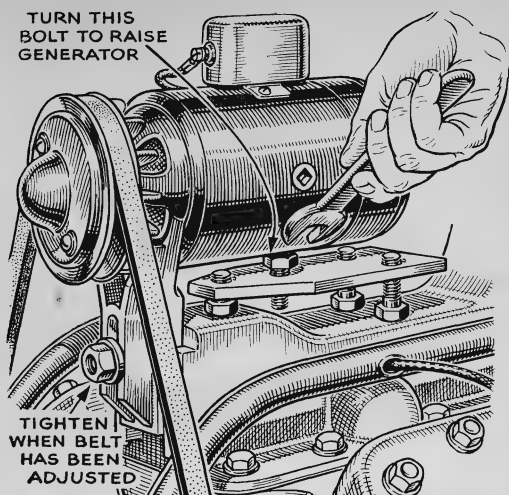
Light Does Double Duty. An accessory back-up light—the kind controlled by a separate switch—can be put to extra use as a direction indicator. Using red paint, I painted on the lens a big arrow pointing to the left. Now, when I'm making a left turn or pulling away from the curb, I flick the light on and off a few times. I've used the light for some time now and find it does its new job very nicely. It still gives ample light for backing.—*Ray Smiley, Detroit, Mich.*



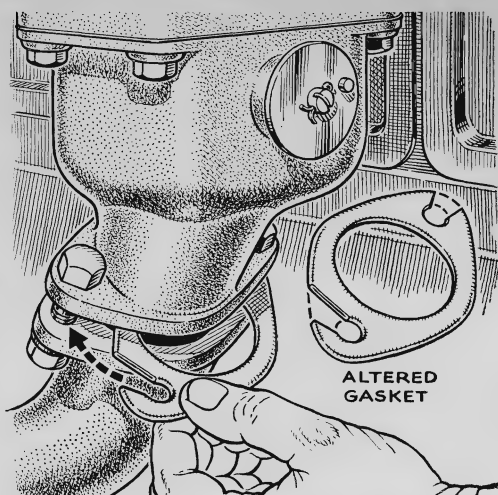
Replacing a Skirt Gasket. You can use a wide washing-machine cover gasket to replace a worn one on the fender skirts of some cars. Cut the rubber to length and stretch it around. Run a small wire hook through the inner side of each end. Fasten the hooks to the projections on the back of the skirt to hold the gasket.



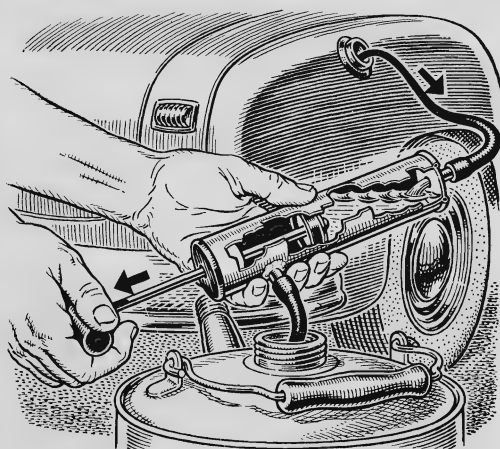
Keep Support Rods Tight. On prewar Ford V-8s, the two support rods that help anchor the engine at the rear have sometimes led to a false diagnosis of clutch trouble. If the rods loosen up, the result is similar to clutch chatter. The remedy is simple: either tighten the rods or replace them.—*A. Zanelli, Clifton, N. J.*



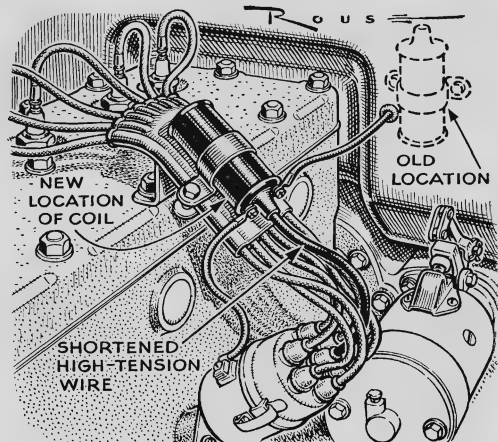
Tool Supports Generator. On some cars it's very tough to hold the loosened generator up in position while adjusting belt tension. The tool illustrated takes care of this. It consists of a piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ " steel plate tapped for four $\frac{1}{2}$ " bolts. Turning the one at the center with a wrench gives a powerful upward thrust, holding the generator at the desired level until the belt-adjustment nut can be tightened. Adjust the length of the leg bolts as required.



Gasket Slots Ease the Job. Narrow slots cut from the edge of a gasket to the bolt holes allow you to install a new one without taking out the bolts. This may be specially helpful on exhaust manifolds or other parts where bolthead clearance is scant, or where threads are so rusty that complete removal would be a time-consuming job. Just loosen the bolts enough to separate the flanges. The slots do not impair the efficiency of the gasket.



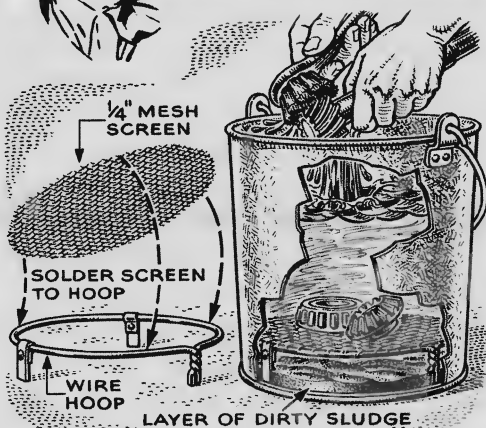
Spray Gun Siphons Gas. A siphon for drawing gas from a tank can be made out of an insect spray gun. Take out the plunger and reverse the cup leather. Cut off the spray container, enlarge the hole in the end of the cylinder, and solder in a piece of $\frac{1}{4}$ " copper tubing. Solder a delivery tube near the other end.



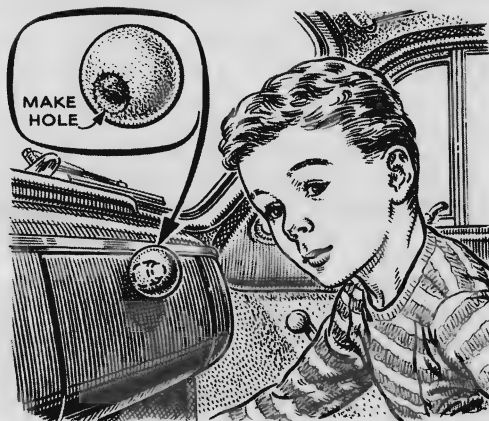
Short Lead Improves Starting. On an older-model Plymouth, I have found that moving the coil from the firewall to the spark-plug cable support makes the engine easier to start. In the new position, the high-voltage wire from the coil to the distributor cap is shortened considerably.—*Ralph Wyant, Indianapolis, Ind.*



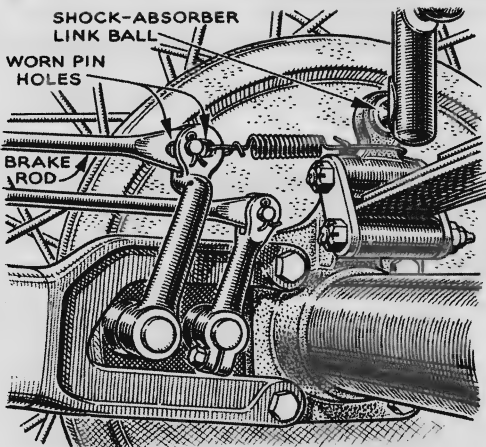
Hints from the Model Garage



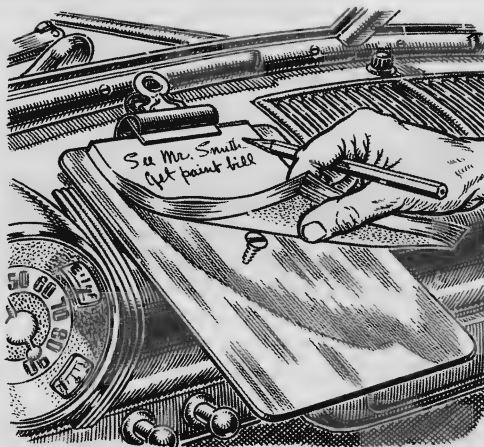
Solvent Stays Clean. Harry Morse, of Oakland, Calif., suggests putting a screen in your parts-cleaning bucket when you're taking down a unit. It lets dirt settle to the bottom and keeps it from being stirred up while you're brushing parts.



Ball Protects Children. Knobs or handles on the dash can give youngsters a bad bump on sudden stops. Sponge-rubber balls fitted over the protruding parts reduce this hazard. A dab of gasket shellac in the hole will attach the ball securely.



Spring Holds Brake Rod. Model A Ford owners sometimes have trouble keeping the mechanical brakes in adjustment because of worn linkages. In such cases, it's probably advisable to install new linkages if available. But you might like to try the idea illustrated above, suggested by J. O. Troemner, of Madison, Wis. The spring takes up the slack that results from the worn pin holes, preventing the brake from dragging when off.

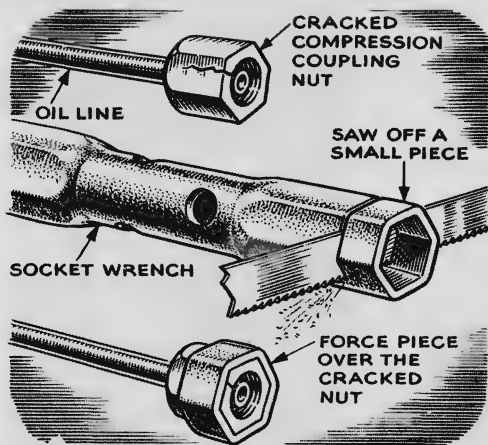


Make Notes While You Ride. A note pad is often a useful thing to have at hand in a car, especially if you are apt to be forgetful. S. D. Laing, of Burrton, Kan., made provision for one in his car by mounting a 4" by 7" piece of heavy sheet aluminum on the dash at a convenient writing angle. A single self-tapping screw holds the piece of aluminum. A pad of note paper is clipped to this, and a pencil is kept in the clip.

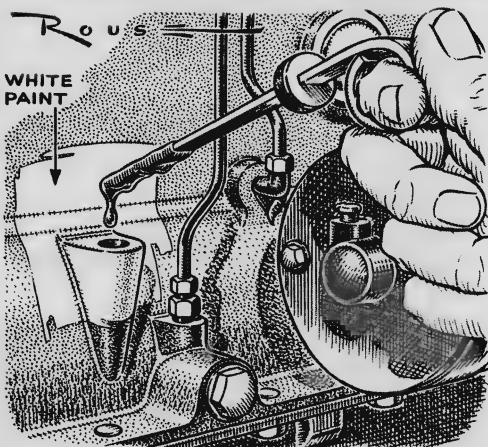


Scraper Cleans Your Shoes. A shoe scraper conveniently mounted will help keep the interior of your car cleaner. The one shown was designed and built by members of the auto mechanics class at the senior high school in Midland, Mich.

Dimensions were chosen to suit a new Hudson, an existing hole being used to mount the scraper. By changing the dimensions, you could adapt the scraper to other makes. It might be best, however, to bend up a strip of tin first as a template.



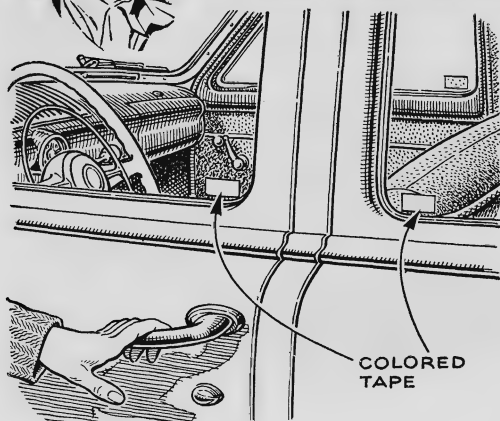
Socket Repairs Oil Line. When an oil line began to leak because of a cracked coupling nut, Norman EnHolm, of Lake Mahopac, N. Y., made an effective repair in this way. After disconnecting the union, he selected a hex socket wrench that would not quite fit on the nut. He then hacksawed a piece off the socket, squeezed the cracked nut together with a clamp, and drove on the collar. It stopped the leak.



Keep Your Oil Clean. The dirt and grit that gets into your crankcase through the dipstick hole may not amount to much, but why take a chance? Scrape the accumulated oil and dirt away from the opening occasionally so you won't shove it inside by accident. At the same time, apply white enamel around the hole. It will make future cleaning easier and help you locate the hole to replace the dipstick.

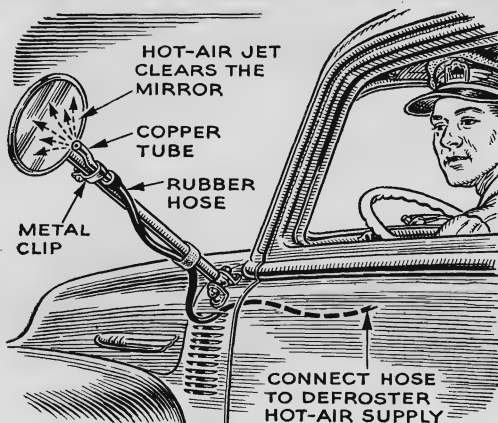


Hints from the Model Garage



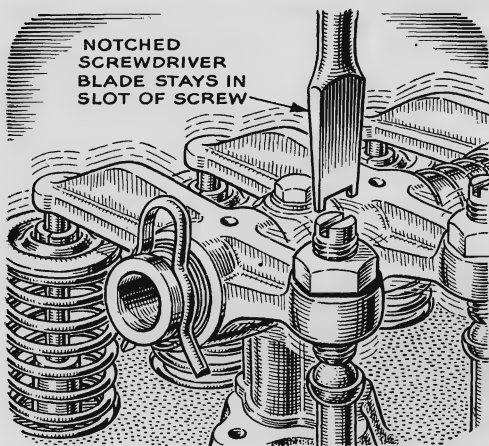
Tape Shows Windows Are Up.

If you keep your car windows clean, it may be difficult to tell that they are up when you're locking the car. Small spots of colored tape applied to the inside near the bottom will show you at a glance.



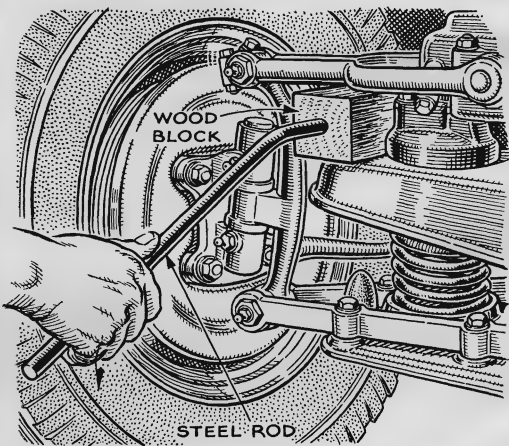
Defroster Clears Mirror.

In sleety weather, Ronald Weller, of Jerseyville, Ill., found that the rear-view mirror on his truck frequently became coated with ice. To keep the mirror clear, he ran a rubber hose from the defroster out to the mirror.



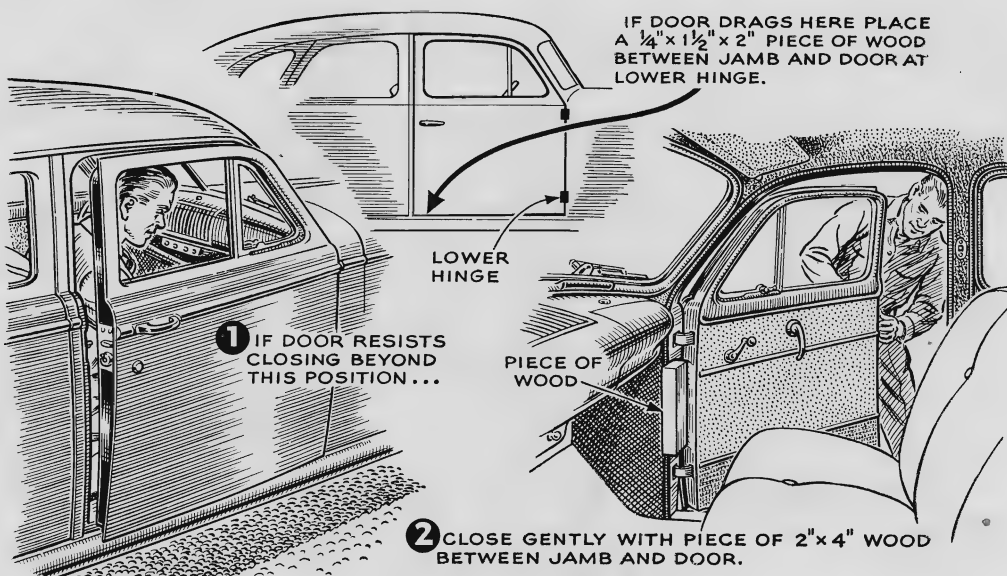
Tappet Adjustment Is Easier.

It is usually recommended that the tappets of an overhead-valve engine be adjusted while the engine is warm and idling. However, you've probably found that it's hard to keep the screwdriver in position on the bouncing adjusting screw. To simplify the task, W. M. Dierks, of Chicago, filed a wide notch in a screwdriver blade. This keeps the blade in the slot while adjustments are made.



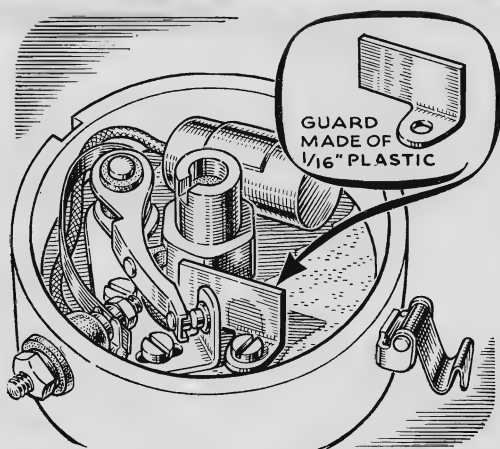
Block Stops Wheel Sag.

If you've ever used a bumper jack, you've probably noticed that the front of a car must be raised quite high before the tire is free. This is because the suspension arms allow the wheel to sag. You can overcome this by thrusting a block of wood between the frame and upper wishbone. A block cut from 3" by 3" stock will do the job. To position the block, fit a steel-rod handle into it.

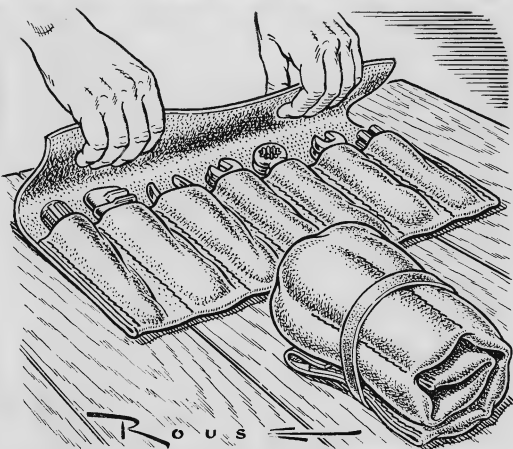


Repairing Sprung Doors. Unless they are too badly damaged, doors with sprung hinges can sometimes be put back into working condition by deliberately jamming them against a piece of wood. Burk Jagers, Rushville, Ind., writes that he has

used the method above. In closing the door, always proceed gently and keep testing—or you may have the problem of correcting an overcorrection. Should the door rub at the upper rear corner, place your block of wood between jamb and door at the top hinge.



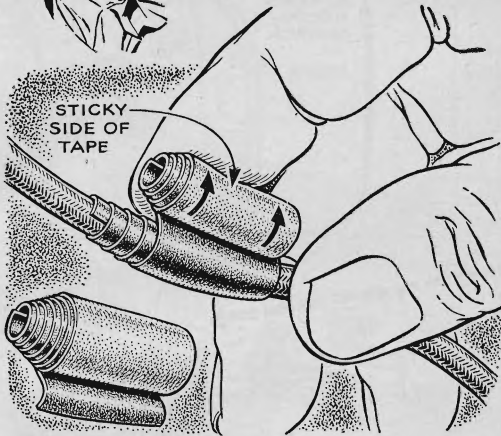
Guard Prolongs Point Life. Ira S. Nelson, of Chicago, reports that he has experienced considerable difficulty with burned and pitted breaker points on his '49 Ford V-8 because oil worked up the distributor shaft. As a solution, he installed a small plastic shield between the cam and breaker arm, mounting it with a 6-32 screw as seen above. The shield helps keep oil from being thrown on the points.



Rubber Kit Stops Rattles. This tool kit, made from an old inner tube by Robert R. Leist, of New Albany, Ind., keeps small tools from rattling around while carried in the car. Cut a piece from the tube large enough to suit the tools you want to have at hand. Pockets to suit them can be sewn with strong cord. Cut a rubber band from the same tube to put around the kit after it has been rolled up.



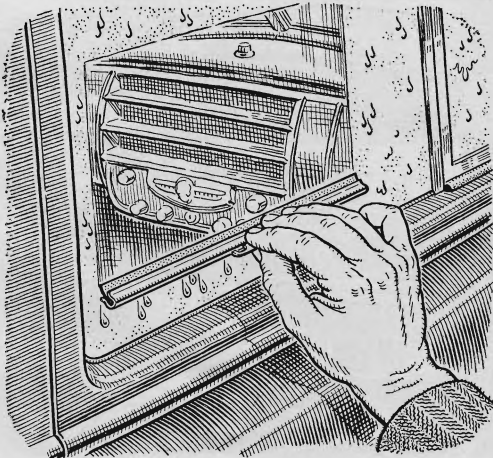
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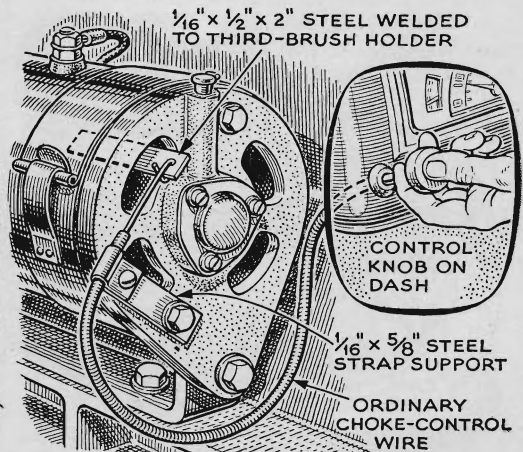
Look, One Hand! In a spot where there's barely space for one hand, how can you tape a wire? Simple enough, says Harry Morse, Oakland, Calif. Tear off a piece, re-roll with the sticky side out, and wind on with the fingers of one hand.



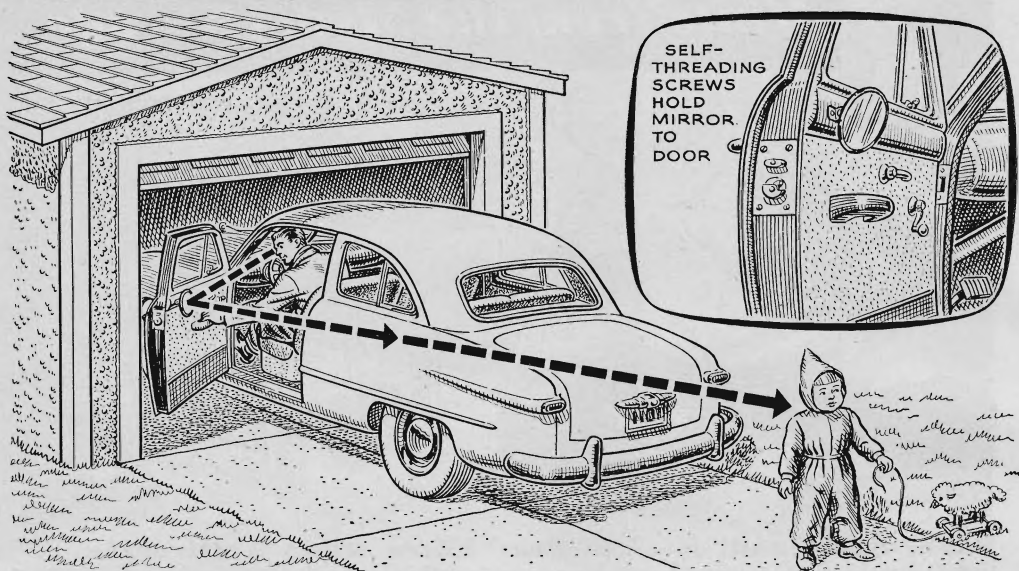
Filter Your Antifreeze. Before putting stored antifreeze back into your car, it's a good idea to filter it through a wad of absorbent cotton placed in a big funnel. You'll find a surprising amount of last year's dirt on the cotton.



Clearing Fogged Windows. Richard H. Hanson, of Melrose, Mass., makes it a practice to carry an extra windshield-wiper blade. Besides serving as a spare in case of loss of one of the regular blades, it also comes in handy as a squeegee for clearing fogged windows. It's also useful for drying the windows after a car wash.

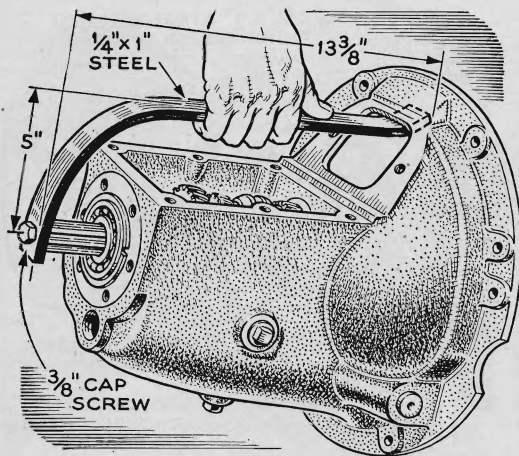


Varies Generator Output. This control enables Rowllins Howard, Rushville, Ind., to vary the generator output on his 1934 Chevrolet to suit conditions. On short hops and at night, he pulls the knob and gets readings of 15 or 20 amp. On a long trip he cuts output back to 4 or 5. This helps prevent battery overcharging.

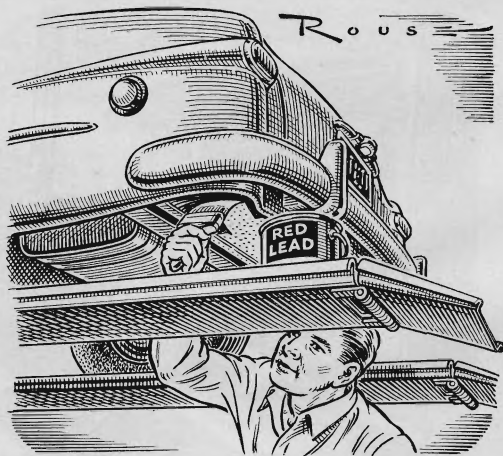


Door Mirror Widens View. If there are children in the neighborhood, backing out of a driveway is always a risky business. A mirror mounted on the driver's

door as above will help cut down any blind spot behind the car. Locate it as near as possible to the outer edge of the door to get a wide angle of vision.



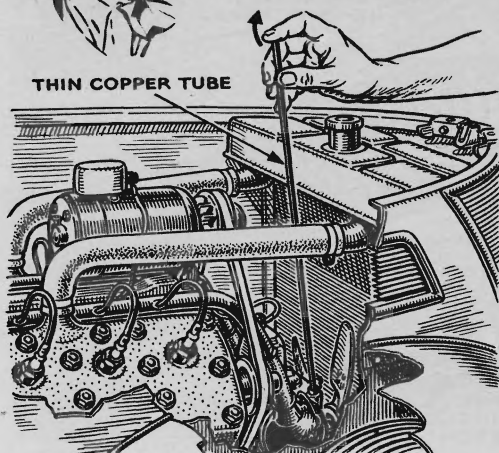
Transmission Lifter. Back in the days when Fords had the shift lever on the floor, the lever could be used to lift the transmission out of the car. But on later models there's practically nothing to which you can hold. To ease the job, mechanic William E. Ware, of Shirley, Ind., made the lifter shown here.



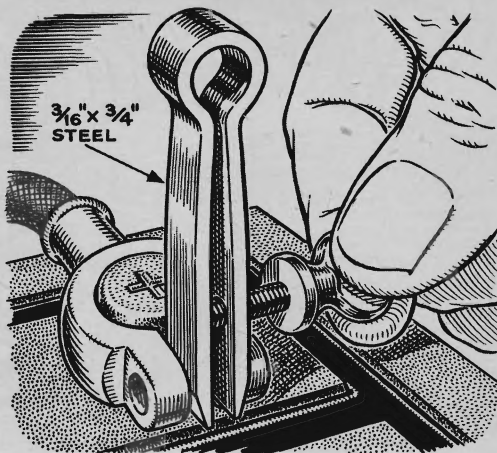
Red Lead Stops Rust. If you don't want to spend the money for a regular undercoating job, you may want to try red lead. You won't get any sound deadening, but at least you can protect the fenders and other metal from rust. A. Bogossian, Brooklyn, N. Y., reports he finds absolutely no rust two years after doing his car.



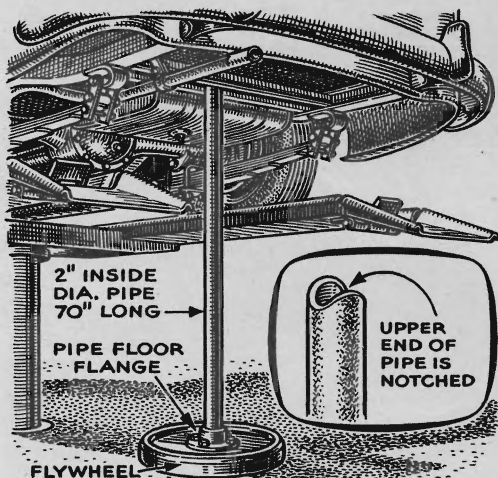
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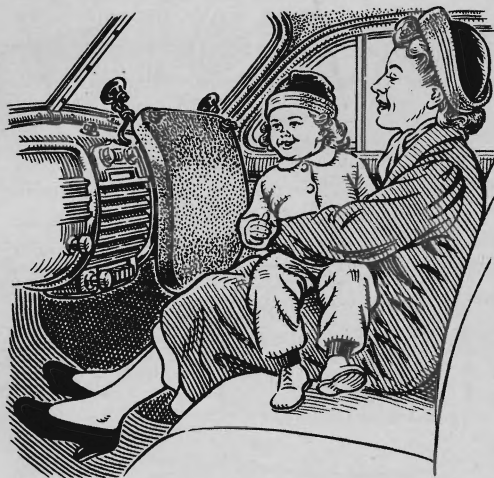
Copper Tube Makes Oiler. To get at those hard-to-reach oil fittings, try this: dip some copper tubing about an inch into oil. Trap the oil in the tube by pressing your finger over the upper end. Removing your finger releases the oil in the fitting.



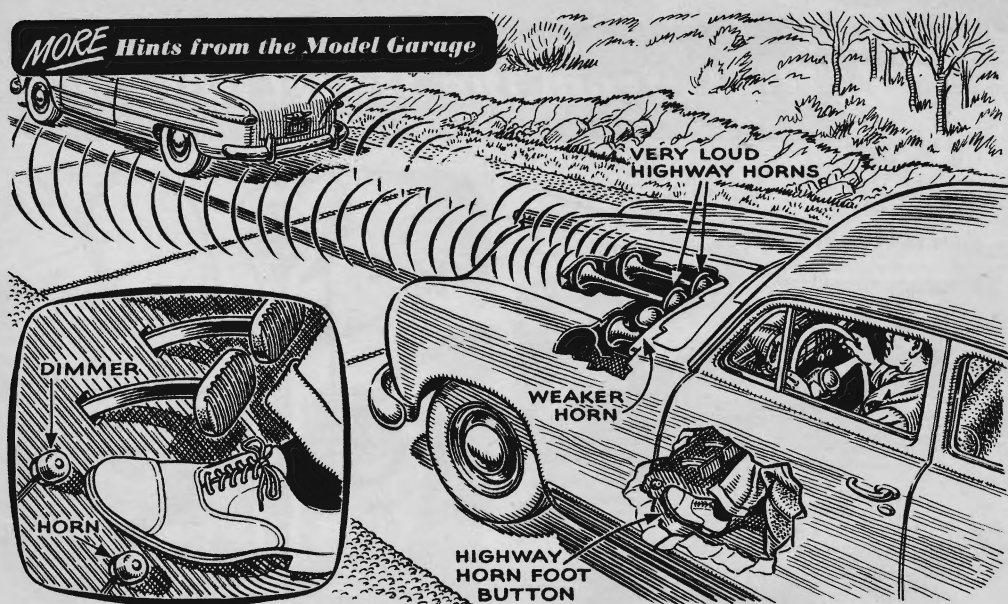
Wedge Loosens Battery Clamp. T. E. Waters, of Atlantic, Iowa, made this wedge to open up stuck battery clamps. The chisel-shaped end is tapped between the clamp's ears. Then the thumbscrew is turned to spread the clamp apart.



Stanchion Opens Springs. I really get oil between spring leaves with this stanchion. After the notched upper end is placed under a frame cross member, I lower the lift a couple of inches. This takes some of the load off the springs and the leaves open. You can almost pour oil between the leaves.—*Marion Rhodes, Knightstown, Ind.*

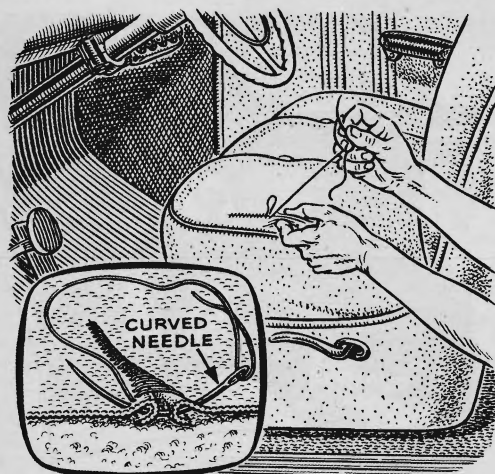


Rubber Pad Protects Kids. Sudden stops often result in bumped heads. A foam-rubber seat pad and two suction cups, mounted as shown, makes a practical dashboard guard. At the upper corners of the pad, punch holes with an ice pick. Tie heavy cord to each cup and run the cord through the holes. Large knots will hold the pad in place.

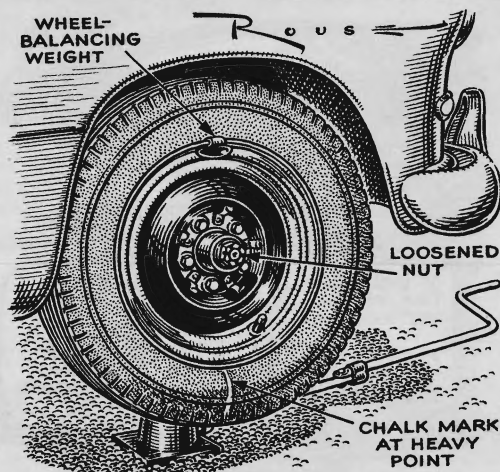


Horn Button on Floor. As a safety measure—so I can keep both hands on the wheel when I'm driving fast—I mounted an auxiliary horn button on the floor of my car. For this button, I used a floor-type starter switch. I located the switch near the dimmer

switch but far enough away so there's no interference in the operation of either one. The floor button is connected to a couple of loud highway horns. A weaker horn, for city driving, is connected to the center button on the steering wheel.—*J. H. Carll, Hempstead, N. Y.*



Curved Needle Mends Rips. Henry Zave, of Chicago, offers this hint for keeping your car's seat covers and upholstery in repair. Use a curved upholsterer's needle for easier sewing. You'll find this type of needle lots simpler to handle. It's especially good when you have to work from only one side of the material.



Balancing Auto Wheels. Mount the wheel on the front axle. Back off the bearing nut. Spin the wheel and mark with chalk the bottom point when it stops. Repeat for accuracy. Opposite the mark, mount a wheel-balancing weight. Continue to spin it, using lighter or heavier weights until the wheel has no heavy point.—*W. M. Dierks, Chicago.*